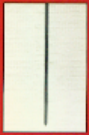
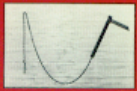
SECRET GUIDE TO MAKING NINJA WEAPONS





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–IMPORTANT INFORMATION–

In order to use this book effectively, follow these simple procedures: first, remove from the center of the book the pattern of the weapon that you wish to construct. **Note: Be very careful not to rip the pattern.** Study the diagrams and the photographs of the desired weapon in order to gain a general concept of the weapon. Secondly, read the section on constructing the weapon once or twice. Next, using the book as a guide, gather the necessary materials and tools and find a suitable construction area. Finally, following the step-by-step instructions and the explicit diagrams, construct the actual weapon. It may be useful to use a photo copier to enlarge the diagrams to actual size for use as patterns. Otherwise, these can be made out of paper or cardboard according to the dimensions of the diagrams. If you wish to construct a weapon more than once, be sure not to use the actual patterns that come with the book, always use a photo copier. Remember, use these designs as a guide. They need not be followed exactly, but the basic concept of the weapon and its function must be kept in mind. It does not matter, for example, if blades are a little longer, shorter, narrower, or wider, but they should be thick enough to have the strength needed to function properly. Above all else, a weapon must be reliable.

FOREWORD

Today, due to the demand for Ninja weaponry, various commercial manufacturers have offered Ninjutsu weapons and devices to the general public. Some of these weapons are overpriced and of poor quality. Many people who desire to practice the Art of the Silent Way cannot afford to purchase the equipment that they need. A problem of equal concern to practitioners of Ninjutsu involves the limiting, controlling, or complete prohibiting of the sale or ownership of Ninja weapons. In the U.S. and Canada, for example, a number of areas have banned the sale or ownership of "Martial Arts Weapons" through legislation. At this time, there is a bill going through the American Congress which will ban all such weapons on a national scale. In Japan and other nations, such bans already exist.

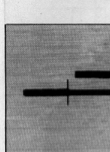
But the Ninja have faced such obstacles to the Way before. In feudal Japan, much like today, most Ninja could not afford to purchase expensive weapons as the more affluent Samurai did. In fact, if anyone outside of the warrior classes was caught with a weapon of any kind, he could be punished with death. But without weapons, the Ninja would be more vulnerable and at a disadvantage. To surmount such odds against them and to protect themselves and maintain their way of life, the Ninja were left with only one choice. In their efforts to survive and become self-sufficient the Ninja became skilled in making their own weapons—inexpensive, but effective weapons—from whatever materials were available. The Ninja needed weapons that developed weapons that were cheap and easy to make, and weapons that were disposable if need be.

The last point cannot be stressed enough. Often weapons and equipment had to be hidden in areas where the Ninja were active, including around their homes. House to house searches were frequent, especially during times of occupation or civil war. Weapons and equipment had to be disposable, especially when Ninja had to swim, run, or climb, and could not be weighted down. They had to be prepared to throw a weapon away, if need be, in order to succeed in their mission or escape. It was dangerous to become to attached to material things. Concern for losing a weapon might cause one to hesitate, and that moment of hesitation might cost the Ninja his or her life. The effectiveness of being a Ninja is not independent on any one weapon, but in being s succeed with any available. Not being depe on any weapon, he could bury or throw away without hesitation. But how many today afford to deal with their expensive comm equipment in the true manner of the Ninja. solution is to make their own weapons fraction of the commercial prices, out of si readily available materials. In fact, the m age works to the advantage of the Ninja. F materials are available, and most people access to the necessary tools.

Today's Ninja can find most of the materi makes the weapons in this book in any hard store. What most people call scrap metal has potential in the hands of a skilled person. untrained mind may only see rusty junk, wh the Ninja has the vision to see the makings future arsenal. Many scrap metals of today ar far superior to the poor, inferior grades of m and alloys once available in small supply ago. If one searches local salvage yards, the may even decrease more.

The weapon designs presented in this book simple and inexpensive to make. They are result of hundreds of years of Ninja research experience. Most of these weapons are so simp concept that the diagrams are almost explanatory. Once a Ninja becomes skille making them, he or she will realize just simple it is. It may very well turn out that prod weapons are of even higher quality and ut than those commercially available. There many important lessons to be gained from knowledge. This is the *Art of the Silent Way*.

SECTION I:
NINJA-TO CONSTRUCTION



List 1.1: Construction Steps

1. Fashion blade.
2. Fashion handle and handle pegs.
3. Fashion handguard and spacers.
4. Attach handguard and spacers with glue.
5. Attach handle with glue.
6. Clamp or tape the handle together temporarily.
7. Drill holes in handle and glue in pegs (removing clamps or tape afterwards).
8. Sharpen blade.
9. Paint to camouflage (optional).
10. Wrap handle with 1/8" nylon cord (optional).

The Ninja-To was the premier weapon of the Koga Ninja. No Ninja would be without one. Follow the above steps to make a basic model. (See Photo 1.1 for a picture of a finished Ninja-To.) Try to commit the procedure to memory. Many of the concepts and principles described in this first section will also be applied to the manufacture of the other weapons in the other sections as well.

Step 1: Fashion blade.

Acquire a suitable piece of metal to work with (see Appendix A: Metallurgy). One that most closely matches the dimensions of the design will save both time and effort. See Diagram 1.0 for the basic design. The standard thickness of the blade is 1/4". If 1/4" material is not available, metal of reasonable thickness can be substituted. A sword blade should at least be 3/16" thick; any thinner and the blade will be too flimsy, and beyond 1/2" the metal becomes difficult to work by hand.

Put the blade stock into a bench vice and shape the blade dimensions with a hacksaw. Saw off the unwanted portions at the tip of the blade and around the handle. DO NOT SHARPEN THE BLADE AT THIS TIME, AS IT WILL THEN BE DANGEROUS TO WORK WITH AS THE SWORD IS CONSTRUCTED. In fact, file down any burrs or rough edges, especially around the handle. Tape the blade and the point as an added safety precaution.

This first step is not always easy. Doing the work by hand will require patience and effort, but it will be part of production considerably. Do not use a power grinder to shape a blade. Doing so will often make the metal brittle, ruining whatever temper it has. Always use the finest metal available, and do not worry if it is rusty at first. The metal can always be cleaned up later.

Step 2: Fashion handle and handle pegs.

Fashion the handle halves out of either wood or plastic and into whatever shape and thickness of handle is desired. Shape the handle to fit the hands of the user. Use 1/4" dowel rods for the handle pegs (see Diagram 1.0).

Step 3: Fashion the handguard and spacers.

Cut the square handguard out of metal with a hacksaw. Use a drill and a file to cut out the sword slot. Drill consecutive holes next to one another that match the thickness and width of the blade. Overlap them somewhat. Using a rat-tail file, file out the excess spurs of metal so that the handle will fit into the slot. The handguard should stop against the blade. Use a razor knife to cut the spacers out of leather. Leather or leather scraps can be found at most craft shops. If leather is not available, vinyl can be substituted.

Step 4: Attach handguard and spacers.

Begin assembling the sword by lining up the spacers and their slots on either side of the handguard. Slide the spacer-handguard-spacer over the handle until they stop against the blade. The fit should be snug, and the blade should be centered in the handguard. Use epoxy glue to give added strength to the handguard-to-handle.

Step 5: Attach handle with glue.

Attach one-half of the handle at a time. Glue the handle together for added strength. If the handle turns out to be loose in certain places, fill these areas with epoxy to form a secure fit. Wood putty or auto-body filler will also work well.

Finish any further shaping of the handle and the handguard, eliminating any sharp edges and forming the handle to fit the hands of the user.

Step 6: Clamp or tape the handle together temporarily.

To keep the handle from coming apart while drilling the holes for the handle pegs, temporarily clamp the handle together with two hose clamps or else tape the handle together in two places for additional strength.

Step 7: Drill handle holes and glue in pegs (removing clamps or tape afterwards).

Using a 1/4" drill bit and a drill, make the handle holes. Be sure that the handle holes are clean and unobstructed, or the pegs might not fit. Glue the 1/4" pegs into place in the handle and file off any excess peg or glue. Do not glue the clamps or the tape to the handle, and remove clamps or tape only after the glue holding the pegs in is dry.

Step 8: Sharpen blade.

Sharpen the blade with a mill bastard file to shape the point and edges of the blade equally from both sides. Put a finishing edge on the sword with an oiled sharpening stone (see Appendix C: Sharpening). Do not grind the blade unless one has the skill to do so without hurting the metal.

Step 9: Paint sword to camouflage (optional).

Paint all of the sword as desired. Possible colors could be white, black, green, grey, brown, or a camouflage pattern of a variety of colors. Use flat colors instead of shiny enamels. In this way, a Ninja can make a variety of swords, camouflaged for any condition. Do not forget to sharpen the paint off the edge and the point. For best results, clean off any rust from the blade before painting, and use rust preventative paint. Auto body primers are normally flat, rust inhibitive and inexpensive.

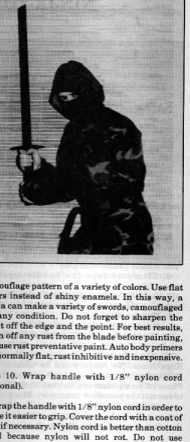
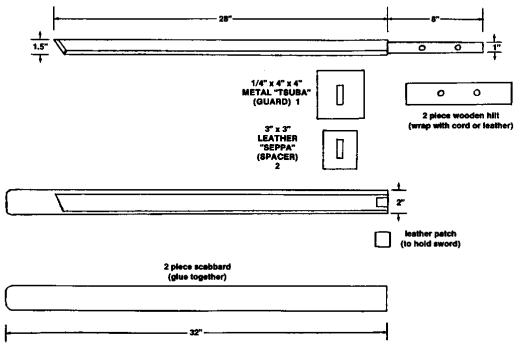


Photo 1.2

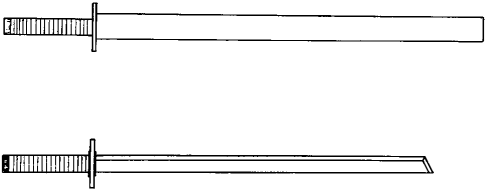
Step 10. Wrap handle with 1/8" nylon cord (optional).

Wrap the handle with 1/8" nylon cord in order to make it easier to grip. Cover the cord with a coat of glue if necessary. Nylon cord is better than cotton word because nylon will not rot. Do not use brightly colored cord.

Refer back to Section I for similar procedures for other weapons. See Diagrams 1.1 and 1.2 for a more advanced design of the Ninja-To. See Appendixes A (Metallurgy), B (Heat Treating), and C (Sharpening) for additional information. Photo 1.2 shows a Ninja wielding a finished Ninja-To.



Ninja-To Sword—longer, advanced design with 2 piece scabbard



1.2

FINISHED NINJA-TO SWORD — HOMEMADE DISPOSABLE VERSION

SECTION II: NINJA TANTO CONSTRUCTION

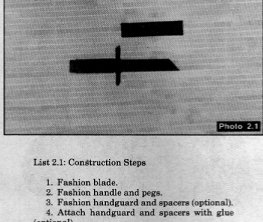


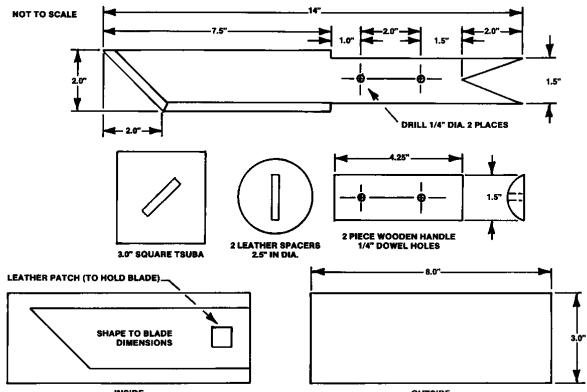
Photo 2.1

List 2.1: Construction Steps

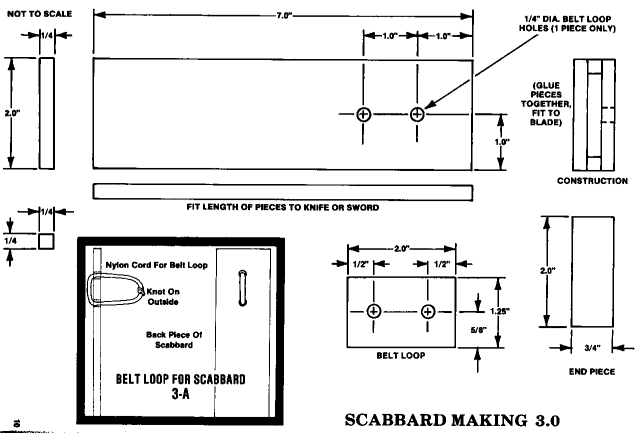
1. Fashion blade.
2. Fashion handle and pegs.
3. Fashion handguard and spacers (optional).
4. Attach handguard and spacers with glue (optional).
5. Attach handle with glue.
6. Clamp or tape handle together temporarily.
7. Drill handle holes and glue in pegs (removing clamps or tape afterwards).
8. Sharpen blade.
9. Paint to camouflage (optional).
10. Wrap handle with cord (optional).

The Ninja Tanto, or dagger, was probably the most common weapon in the Ninja arsenal. It can be made without a handguard, as in the basic design (Diagram 2.0) or with a handguard as in the advanced design (Diagram 2.1). Use the basic design first. The construction of the tanto is very much like that of the Ninja-To. Follow the same procedures as outlined in Section I. See Photo 2.1 for a completed Ninja Tanto.

Remember that the tanto was designed to penetrate armor. Sharpen the blade and the point as carefully as one would a sword (see Appendix C: Sharpening).



NINJA TANTO, ASSAULT DAGGER PATTERN 2.1



SCABBARD MAKING 3.0

SECTION III: SCABBARD MAKING

List 3.1: Construction Steps

1. Cut scabbard pieces to fit the dimensions of the blade (sword, dagger, etc.).
2. Drill the belt loop holes in the bottom piece.
3. Glue the side pieces securely to the bottom piece, making sure that the blade will slide in and out.
4. Insert the belt loop (made out of 1/8" nylon cord). Tie the knot on the outside of the scabbard in the back. Make the loop as large as is needed (see Diagram 3.A for further explanation).
5. Glue the top piece of the scabbard on.
6. Glue the endpiece on.
7. Tape the scabbard for extra strength (optional).
8. Paint to camouflage (optional).
9. Insert blade weapon and check for proper fit.

Construct scabbards out of 1/8" plexiglass, or if that is not available, use 1/4" wood. In an emergency, a temporary scabbard can even be fashioned from cardboard or rolled up newspaper and tape, but obviously such a scabbard will not last long. The basic design for a standard Ninja Tanto scabbard is presented in Diagram 3.0. Lengthen the basic scabbard design for a sword; the design will be the same, but the scabbard peices will be longer to fit the sword blade. Do not use too thick a cord to make the belt loop with, or the sword will not fit in the scabbard. Do not glue the sword to the scabbard, but be sure that the sword fits. The more advanced design, the two-piece scabbard, is shown along with the advanced sword and dagger designs, and is more difficult to make. Work with the basic designs first, as they require no carving. Scabbards are shown along with the Ninja-To (Photo 1.1) and the Ninja Tanto (Photo 2.1).

SECTION IV:
NINJA YARI CONSTRUCTION

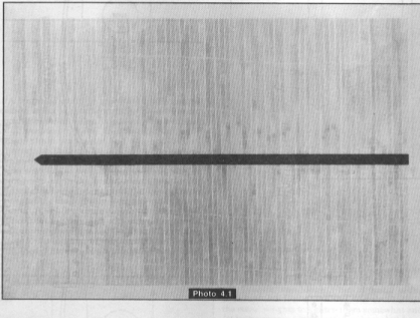
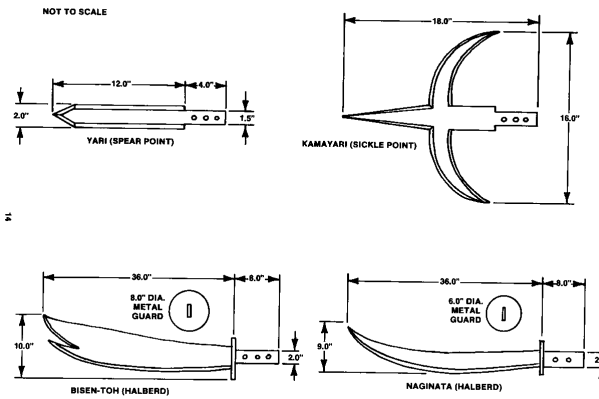


Photo 4.1

List 4.1: Construction Steps

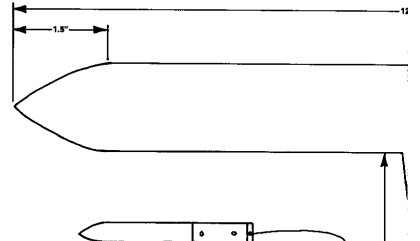
1. Fashion blade.
2. Saw out the notch for the blade in the spearhaft.
3. Fit and glue the blade into the notch.
4. Attach the hose-clamps as shown; tighten them until the blade is firmly held (optional).
5. Drill the holes through the spearhaft and the spear blade in order to hold the spear pegs.
6. Fashion spear pegs.
7. Glue the spear pegs in.
8. Sharpen the spearpoint and blade.
9. Paint to camouflage.

The Ninja Yari (spear) was primarily a thrusting weapon. See Diagram 4.1 for more advanced polearm designs. The basic yari is even more simple to make than a sword or dagger. The only problem is usually cutting the slot in the center of the spearhaft. The hose clamps are necessary to keep the spear slot from splitting and to strengthen the weapon. The spearhaft itself is usually a standard 5' long, but it can be of any length from 5'-20' long. A finished Ninja Yari is shown in Photo 4.1. A Ninja with a yari is shown in Photo 4.2.

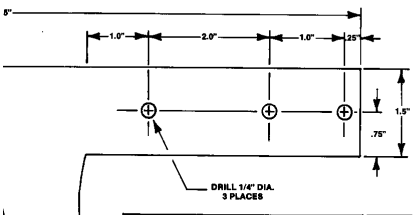


SPEAR DESIGNS 4.1

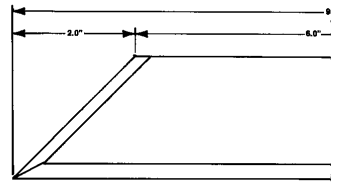
NINJA WEAPON PATTERN


1.5"
3.75"
USE A 5'-20' CHAIN OR ROPE TO CONNECT THE SHOGE TO A METAL RING, A FIGHTING WEIGHT, OR EVEN A GRAPPLING HOOK.

NINJA SI

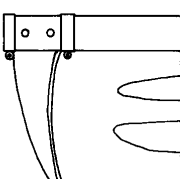

8"
1.0"
2.0"
1.0"
.25"
1.5"
.75"
DRILL 1/4" DIA.
3 PLACES
1.5"
.75"
(2) WOODEN HANDLES
1.0"
1.0"
4.0"
SECURE HANDLES TO BLADE
WITH TWO 1/4" x 1½"
WOODEN DOWELS

IOGE 7.0

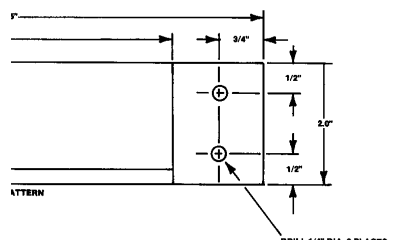


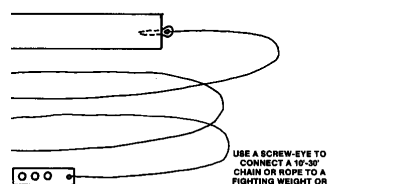
BASIC R

THE BLADE IS ATTACHED TO THE HANDLE WITH WOODEN PINS AND RING CLAMPS.



NINJA KUSARI GAMA





(SICKLE & CHAIN) 6.0